

Getting to Know the Michigan Agriculture Environmental Assurance Program









Why MAEAP?


MAEAP verified farms keep their land, water and air as healthy as the food they produce.





All Farms of all sizes!

Partner up!
Great partnerships made through MAEAP

- Farmers
- Industry Groups
- Conservation
- Agency
- University

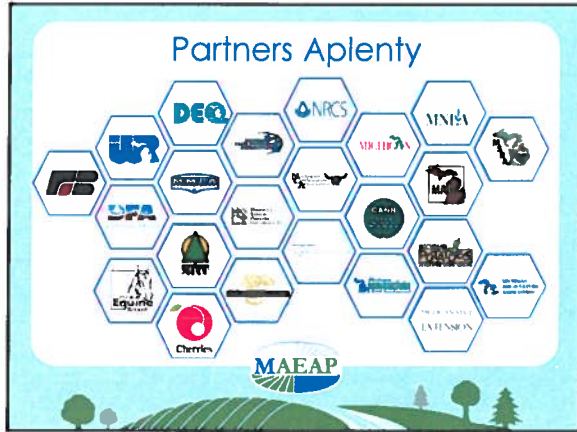


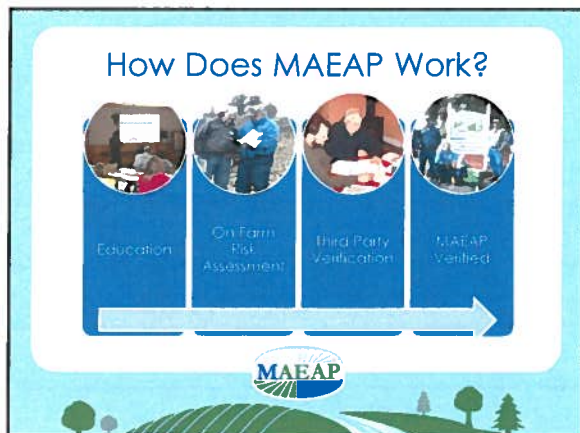
Our Mission

To develop and implement a proactive environmental assurance program that targets all size Michigan farms and all commodities, ensuring that farmers are engaging in cost effective pollution prevention practices and working to comply with state and federal environmental regulations.










What Does MAEAP Do?





What Does MAEAP Address?



MAEAP Facts
Phosphorus & Nitrogen reduced on MAEAP farms could have grown enough algae to cover over half of Houghton Lake at approx. 1/2" in depth. (Houghton Lake is Michigan's largest inland lake.)



- Water Management
- Nutrient Management
- Manure Management
- Soil Conservation
- Erosion Control
- Riparian Zone Management
- Wetland Management
- Forest Management
- Wildlife Management
- Recreation Management
- Cultural Resource Management
- Historical Resource Management
- Archaeological Resource Management
- Paleontological Resource Management
- Geographical Resource Management
- Geological Resource Management
- Geomorphological Resource Management
- Glaciological Resource Management
- Oceanographical Resource Management
- Limnological Resource Management
- Biogeographical Resource Management
- Ecological Resource Management
- Environmental Resource Management
- Environmental Impact Assessment
- Environmental Monitoring
- Environmental Quality Assessment
- Environmental Policy Assessment
- Environmental Risk Assessment
- Environmental Sustainability Assessment
- Environmental Impact Statement
- Environmental Impact Analysis
- Environmental Impact Review
- Environmental Impact Study
- Environmental Impact Report
- Environmental Impact Statement
- Environmental Impact Analysis
- Environmental Impact Review
- Environmental Impact Study
- Environmental Impact Report





ASysts & Emergency Tube

Why Do Farmers Participate?

• Access to MAEAP grants	• Environmental stewardship
• Reduced risk of fines	• Improved water quality
• Reduced risk of lawsuits	• Improved soil health
• Access to technical assistance	• Improved farm profitability
• Improved farm profitability	• Improved farm profitability
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PA 1 & 2, 2011

MAEAP codified in law

- Standards, Advisory Council, Ag Commission Role, Regional Assurance Teams, MOU with MDEQ & more.



Incentives in law

- Accidental discharge – No fines & penalties. (responsibility for notification/resource damage).
- TMDL- Farms verified in all applicable systems considered as meeting all required practices.
- Verified farms following standards & receiving defined rainfall with discharge considered nonpoint source discharge. Corrective action to avoid future discharge.


Environmental Gains

- Currently over 10,000 farms participating with over 1,400 verifications.
- Sediment reduction – over 300,000 tons per year or 18 640 – 10 yard dump trucks.
- Verified nutrient management plans in place on over half a million acres of Michigan farmland.
- Phosphorus reduction to surface water over 550,000 # per year.
- Nitrogen reduction to surface water over 1,380,000 # per year.

MAEAP Stewardship Practices

- Almost 400,000 acres not using pesticides have approved no-M production rotations.
- Almost 10,000 acres of filter strips have been installed.
- Almost 1,500 gullies have been stabilized, improving water quality.
- Annually, over \$1.2 million is spent for practice implementation by farmers, working toward MAEAP verification.



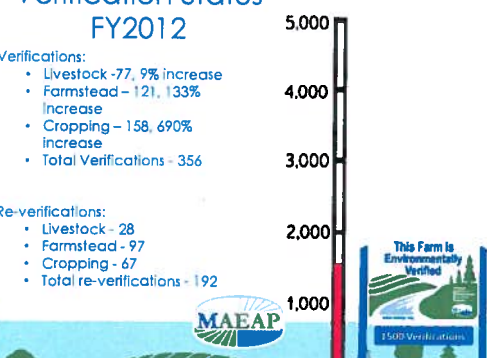
Verification Status FY2012

Verifications:

- Livestock - 77, 9% increase
- Farmstead - 121, 133% increase
- Cropping - 158, 690% increase
- Total Verifications - 356

Re-verifications:


- Livestock - 28
- Farmstead - 97
- Cropping - 67
- Total re-verifications - 192



How Do We Get to 5,000?

Numerically

- 2003 - 2010: 861
- 2011: 1,004 (143 new)
- 2012: 1,360 (356 new)
- 2013: 2,060 (700 new)
- 2014: 3,260 (1,200 new)
- 2015: 5,010 (1,750 new)




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16 per technician;	5 per county
20 per technician;	10 per county
35 per technician;	18 per county
51 per technician;	26 per county




MAEAP Funding FY2013

\$1M -

- 12 new employees to Conservation Districts
- 2 new MAEAP verifiers
- 1 new MAEAP engineer
- 1/2 additional administrative support


In addition, \$5M+ to Conservation Districts for technical assistance grants through the Groundwater Fund (GWF), state general funds, and federal grants.

GWF is established through fees collected under part 87, Michigan Natural Resources & Environmental Protection Act.




Local Involvement

Stewards of the Land



B...



Community Awareness



Hot Head Farms in Hickory Corners earns environmental verification



Promotions

**MAEAP
Verified
Farms in
Farm Market
Promotions**

A sign of integrity.





